

Cradle Roll Program

By Kathy Klenner



THEME: God made me Special

Psalm 139:14 "for I am fearfully and wonderfully made."

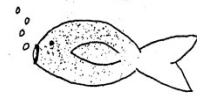
Cradle Roll programs are designed to honor children who were baptized recently or who are now graduating into Sunday School. Use this program to fit the needs of your church! Send out invitations, remember to invite grandmas too.

WELCOME guests and briefly explain cradle roll.

- Share the theme verse from Psalm 139:14.
- As an ICE BREAKER have everyone look at the palms of their hands and show their neighbor how unique and fascinatingly different the lines in our hands are.
- Open with prayer.

SUGGESTED SONGS:

- Jesus Loves Me
- My God Is So Big (Wee Sing Sunday School Songs)
- If I Were a Butterfly (Sing 'n' Celebrate for Kids, Volume II)



BIBLE STORY: Tell the creation story from Genesis 1 or use a child's story book on creation or use this simple finger play as your story from Genesis 1.

GOD MADE THE WORLD

Genesis 1

Who made the sun?
(Form circle with arms.)
God made the sun.
(Point upward.)
Who made the birds?
(Move hands in flying motion.)
God made the birds.
(Point upward.)

God made you and God made me.
(Point upward, to others, to self.)
Thank you, God, for the world we see.
Amen *(All bow heads.)*
-Ruth Odor

Who made the trees?
(Hold arms upward.)
God made the trees.
(Point upward.)
Who made you and who made me?
(Point to others and then to self.)

ANOTHER FINGER PLAY: Here's my fingers
Here's my toes
I'm unique to the tip of my nose!

ART: Make thumbprint people and animals. See the copy, and use your imagination. Simply press thumbs or fingers on a black stamp pad and press on the paper, use colored pens if you like to add special features. Have wet wipes handy to clean up fingers.

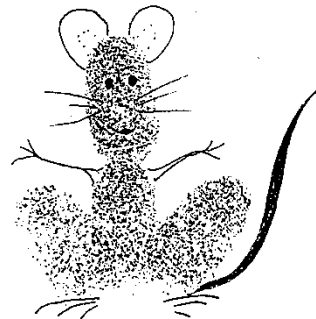
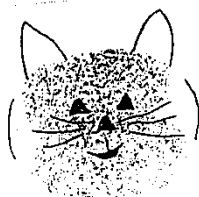
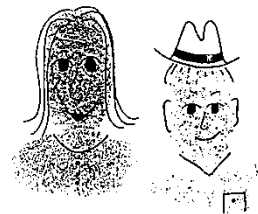
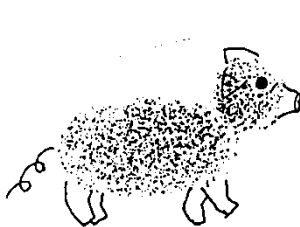
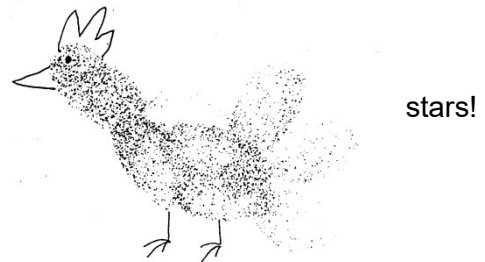
FOOD: Thumbprint cookies

BULLETIN BOARD: The background could be white paper filled with black thumbprints and big letters of black paper on top saying "I'M UNIQUE." Add the bible Verse across the bottom in red letters.

CLOSING: Use the following responsive reading with the children.

ADULT: God made the light and air!
CHILDREN: Thank you, Jesus!
ADULT: God made land and water!
CHILDREN: Thank you, Jesus!
ADULT: God made the flowers and trees!

CHILDREN: Thank you, Jesus!
ADULT: God made the fruit!
CHILDREN: Thank you, Jesus!
ADULT: God made the sun, moon and stars!
CHILDREN: Thank you, Jesus!
ADULT: God made the fish, birds and animals!
CHILDREN: Thank you, Jesus!
ADULT: God made Adam and Eve!
CHILDREN: Thank you, Jesus!
ADULT: God made me!
CHILDREN: Thank you, Jesus!
ALL: Thank you! Thank you! Thank you, Jesus!



CRADLE ROLL PROGRAM

Theme: God's Gift of Creation



1. Welcome and Prayer
2. Song: "Beautiful Savior"
3. "My Prayer" fingerplay
4. Special fingerplays done by a group of preschool or kindergarten age children.
 - A. "Animals"
 - B. "A Way To Go"
5. Object Lesson: God's Gift of Creation
6. Teach "God Made the World" fingerplay. Encourage the Cradle Roll children to take part in the fingerplay.
7. Briefly explain Cradle Roll objectives and goals.
8. Enroll new babies.

Read names of present Cradle Roll members.
Present certification of promotion to Cradle Roll graduates.
9. Closing Prayer
10. Children can be taken to an art table to make their choice of art work and can then join their parent(s) for refreshments. Or, children can have refreshments by themselves while someone reads a story like "counting Katie's Gifts." This would allow the parents a time of uninterrupted fellowship.
11. Take Cradle Roll children outside for a CREATION HUNT and make Creation Books.

CREATION BOOKS

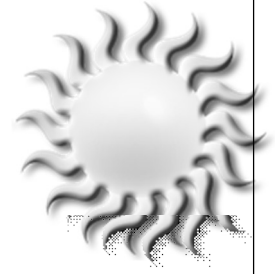
Use 3-5 Zip-Lock bags for each child. Staple the bags together on the folded end. Cover the bags with felt, fabric or paper and write on the cover "My Creation Book." Make one book for each child. Take the children on a Creation Walk and have them fill their Zip-Lock bags with all sorts of created things. (The Zip-Lock bag allows them to continue to add to their collection even after they've taken their book home.)

*Counting Katie's Gifts, 1988, Standard publishing, Cincinnati, OH (A Happy Day Book). Author: El Louise Price.

FINGERPLAYS

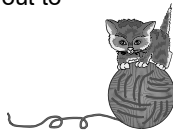
MY PRAYER

Thank you, God,
For flowers bright,
(cup hands flower-like)
For grass so green,
(Hands, palms downward, move
outward horizontally.)
For soft moonlight,
(Point upward.)
For butterflies,
(flap arms)
For wind that blows;
(Palms together at side of waist
come quickly to other side.)
For all our world
(Arm outstretched.)
We thank you so!
(Hands clasped, head bowed.)
--Ruth Vaughn



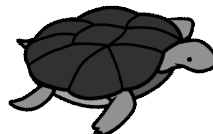
ANIMALS

Puppy dogs and kitty cats,
(Pretend to pet dog on one side and
cat on other side of chair.)
And ponies standing tall,
(Hold hand up high as if measuring height)
Tiny chicks and woolly lambs
(Hands together to hold tiny chick; then
pretend to hold lamb in arms.)
Our great God made them all.
(Point upward, then stretch arms out to
indicate all the animals.)
--Jean Katt



A WAY TO GO

A robin flies,
(Wave arms in flying motion)
A bunny hops,
(Hop up and down)
A turtle crawls so slow;
(Move legs up and down very slowly.)
God gave each animal He made
(Point to sky.)
A special way to go!
(Take two fingers and walk them up the
arm, or walk in place.)
--Jean Shannon



FINGER PLAYS

MY PRAYER

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For flowers bright,
(cup hands flower-like)
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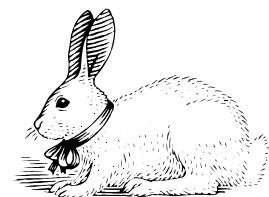


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GOD MADE THE WORLD Genesis 1



1) Who made the sun?

(Form circle with arms.)

2) God made the sun.

(Point upward.)

1) Who made the birds?

(Move hands in flying motion.)

2) God made the birds.

(Point upward.)

1) Who made the trees?

(Hold arms upward.)

2) God made the trees.

(Point upward.)

1) Who made you and who made me?

(Point to others and then to self.)

2) God made you and God made me.

(Point upward, to others and to self)

Thank you, God, for the world you
made. Amen

(All bow heads and say together..)

NOTE: Teacher takes 1) and children 2); or
divide class into two groups.

--Ruth Odor

GOD'S GIFT OF CREATION

(The story of Creation)
(Object Lesson)

(You may use "Box Full of Surprises" for this object lesson. You will find instructions at the end of this lesson.)

(Teach the children the phrase: "And God saw that it was good," and have them repeat it after each day of creation.)

Long, long ago there were no boys and girls, no men and women, no dogs or cats, or elephants or other animals, no birds, or butterflies, no sun in the sky, no green growing things on the ground. There was no world at all! There was nothing but GOD! God always lived. But He had no boys and girls to Jove Him, no men and women to praise Him.

DAY 1 - Genesis 1:1-5

Before God made people, He wanted to have a lovely home ready for them. God can make things by just speaking. He looked at the great blackness. "Let there be light!" (pull out white or yellow piece of construction paper) He said. At once there was the lovely bright morning light. God divided the light from the darkness (pull out a black piece of construction paper). He called the light "Day" and the darkness He called "Night". AND GOD SAW THAT IT WAS GOOD.

DAY 2 - Genesis 1:6-8

Then God said, "Let there be a sky above (pull out cotton ball-clouds) and water beneath (pull out a piece of dark blue construction paper). And at once it was done. That was the second day. AND GOD SAW THAT IT WAS GOOD.

DAY 3 - Genesis 1:9-13

On the third day God said, "Let the water be gathered together into seas and lakes, (pull out a picture of lake-ocean) and let the dry land be seen (pull out a landscape picture). The dry land He named "Earth" and the water He called "Seas". God saw that what He had made was good. So He said, "Let the green grass grow on the earth. (pull out a picture of grass or glue real grass onto a piece of paper) Let plants and trees grow (pull out a picture of plants and trees or real plants glued on paper) Let the plants and trees have seeds so that more plants and trees will grow." (glue some apple seeds, acorns, pine cones, etc. on a piece of paper and pull out of the box) AND GOD SAW THAT IT WAS GOOD.

DAY 4 - Genesis 1:14-19

On the fourth day God said, "Let there be lights in the sky to divide the day from the night, and to give light to the earth." He made the sun (pull out a picture of the sun) for the daytime and the moon (pull out a picture of the moon) and stars (pull out the picture of stars) for the nighttime. AND GOD SAW THAT IT WAS GOOD.

DAY 5 - Genesis 1:20-23

On the fifth day God said, "Let fish (pull out the picture of fish) swim in the water and birds (pull out the picture of birds) fly in the air." He made small and great fish, and many kinds of flying things. AND GOD SAW THAT IT WAS GOOD.

DAY 6 - Genesis 1:24-31

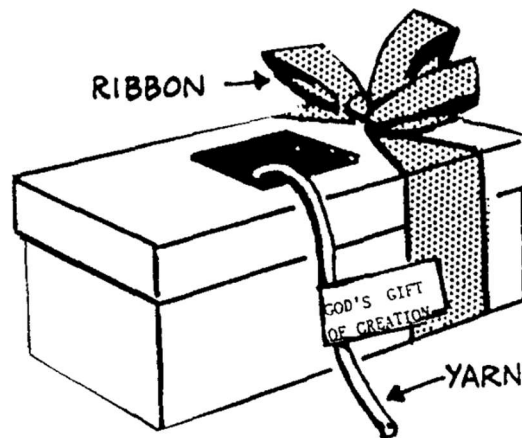
On the sixth day God said, "Let there be animals upon the earth." (pull out the picture(s) of various animals) And at once there were all kinds of animals walking and hopping and running and creeping upon the earth. All of them were made by God.

At last the lovely world was ready for people. Finally God made a man and a woman (pull out pictures of people) to live in the beautiful home which he had made for them. AND GOD SAW ALL THAT HE HAD MADE, AND BEHOLD, IT WAS VERY GOOD.

DAY 7 - Genesis 2:1-3

And so He rested on the seventh day.

BOX FULL OF SURPRISES



MATERIALS:

Shoe box, gift wrap, scissors, yarn, small gifts, tissue paper, napkins, 3" X 5" card.

PROCEDURE:

1. Cut a 3" X 3" hole in the top of the shoe box. Wrap the box with gift wrap, leaving the hole open in the top.
2. Obtain a long piece of colorful yarn and the pictures for each day of creation (see creation story).
3. Tie each picture onto the yarn. Insert the yarn into the box one picture at a time.
4. Leave one end of the yarn out. Tie a card on the end of the yarn. Write on the card "God's Gifts of Creation."
5. Pull out one picture at a time as they appear in the creation account.

GOD'S GIFT OF CREATION

(Cradle Roll objectives and goals)

From my heart to yours

I'd like to share with you my concern that our little children be taught to give God the praise for all that is. Even our preschoolers are exposed to teachings about "Mother Nature", "Mother Earth", evolution, etc. There is a trend in our society to attribute divine power to such created things as the wind, the sun, the earth, fire and other things.

Our children are never too young to be taught that God is the creator of all things.

This program has 3 objectives:

1. To teach the children that God created all things.
2. To let each child know that he/she is special because God created them.
3. To thank God for all He made.

Use the "Box Full Of Surprises" (see directions) to keep the children's attention as you tell the story of creation. For each day of creation, find or draw a picture to correspond with what was created. When a specific picture cannot be found, simply use a colored piece of paper to symbolize what was created (i.e.: "light" - use white or yellow construction paper, etc.)

Encourage the children to identify the items of creation as you pull them out of the box. The first few days may be difficult but as you come to more familiar items it will get easier.

ADDITIONAL IDEAS OF DECORATIONS, ETC.

SPOOL ANIMAL

A spool animal (see directions) can be made for each child. Write the child's name on the front of a card and the verse, "I am fearfully and wonderfully made." (Ps. 139:14), on the back. Tie it around the animal's neck with twine or string.

CREATION ROCKS

Pick nice, smooth rocks (one for each child) to decorate with colored markers. You can draw creation pictures on the rock, print a Bible verse about creation (ie: Gen.1:31a; Ps. 139:14), or print the child's name. (or any combination of the above - Be Creative!)

CREATION PLACEMATS

Decorate a piece of construction paper with pictures of created things and cover with clear contact paper (leaving a 1/4-in. border). Use on the table at each place setting.

IDEAS FOR REFRESHMENTS

JIGGLERS

4 packages (4-serving size each) OR 2 packages (8-serving size each) JELL-C Gelatin, any flavor
2 1/2 cups boiling water

Pour gelatin into bowl. Add 2 1/2 cups boiling water to gelatin. Stir with a rubber scraper until gelatin is completely dissolved, about 2 minutes.

Pour into 9x13-inch pan. Put pan into refrigerator to chill until firm, about 3 hours. Take pan out of refrigerator. Put about 1 inch of warm water in sink. Dip just bottom of pan into warm water for 15 seconds.

Use animal shape cookie cutters to cut gelatin into any shapes you wish. (If you do not have animal shape cookie cutters, cut gelatin into squares with a table knife.)

Lift shapes out of pan with your fingers. Makes about 24 small shapes.

JIGGLERS, CREAMY-STYLE

4 packages (4-serving size each) OR 2 packages (8-serving size each) JELL-C Gelatin, any flavor
2 1/2 cups boiling water
1 cup cold milk
1 package (4-serving size) JELL-C Instant Pudding, Vanilla Flavor

Pour gelatin into bowl. Add 2 1/2 cups boiling water to gelatin. Stir with rubber scraper until gelatin is completely dissolved, about two minutes. Cool to room temperature, about 30 minutes.

Pour 1 cup of cold milk into shaker. Add pudding mix. Put lid on shaker very tightly. Shake very hard for at least 1 minute. (Be sure to hold top and bottom of shaker tightly.)

Open shaker. Pour pudding quickly into gelatin. Stir with wire whisk until mixture is all the same color. Pour into 9X13-inch pan. Put pan into refrigerator to chill until firm, about 3 hours.

Use animal shape cookie cutters to cut gelatin into any shape you wish. Lift shapes out of pan with your fingers.

DIRT CUPS

2 cups cold milk
1 package (4-serving size) JELL-O Instant Pudding, Chocolate Flavor
3 1/2 cups (8-ounce container) COOL WHIP Whipped Topping, thawed
1 package (16 ounces) chocolate sandwich cookies, crushed, divided
Pour 2 cups of cold milk into bowl. Add pudding mix. Beat with wire whisk until well blended, about 2 minutes. Let pudding stand 5 minutes.

Stir whipped topping and 1/2 of the crushed cookies into pudding very gently with rubber scraper until mixture is all the same color. Place about 1 tablespoon of the remaining crushed cookies into bottom of each paper or plastic cup.

Fill cups about 3/4 full with pudding mixture. Top each cup with the rest of the crushed cookies. Put cups into refrigerator to chill until set, about 1 hour. Garnish with silk or plastic flowers, candy worms, frogs or bugs, if you wish.

Makes 8 to 10 Dirt Cups

Spool Animal

Materials: Spool Animal Patterns (including ear patterns), spools (or tissue rolls cut in two), construction paper, glue, scissors, cotton balls for sheep, yarn and photocopy machine. Optional—scraps of black, pink and brown felt, wiggle eyes.

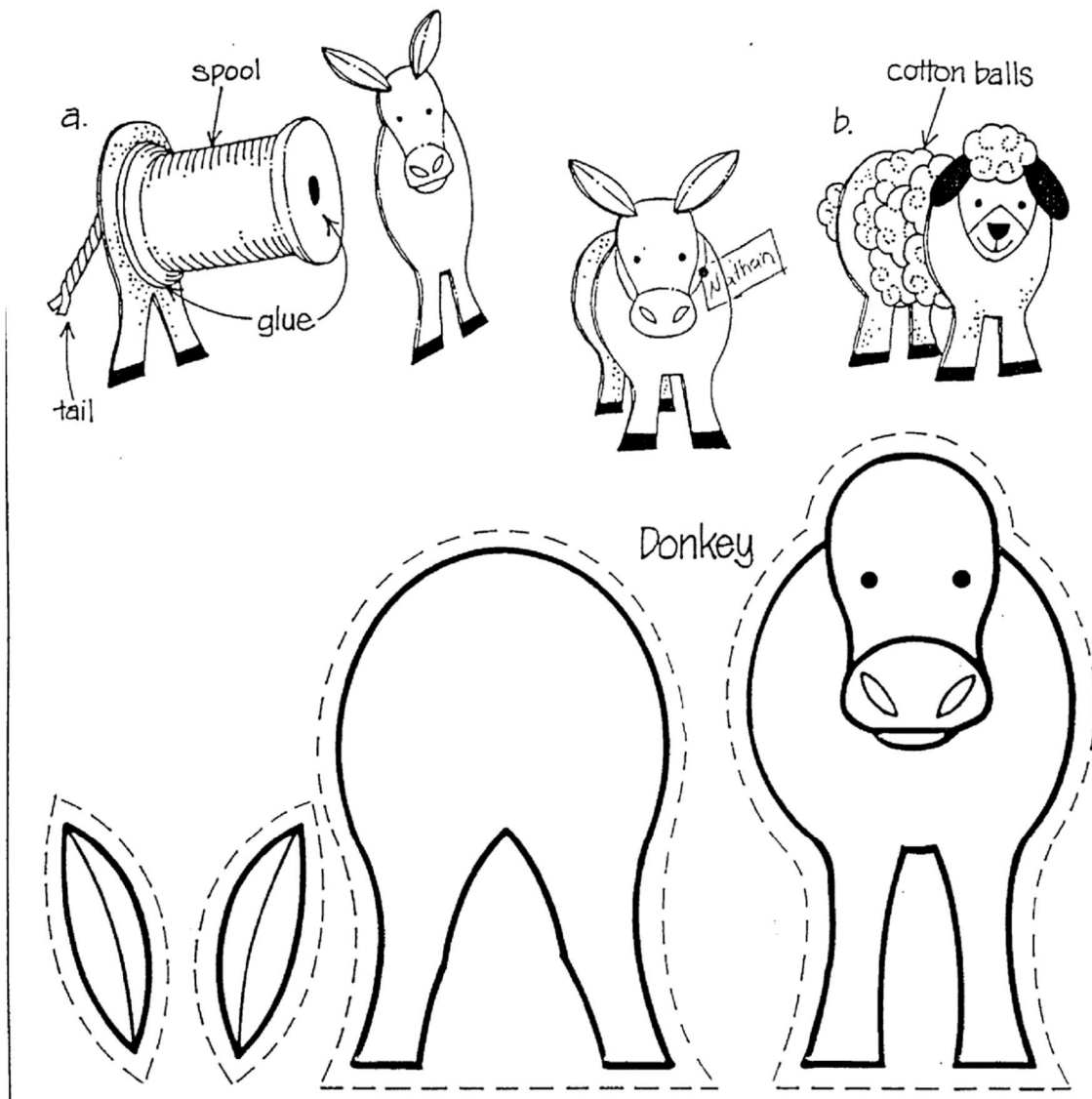
Preparation: Choose an animal related to the lesson for each child to make. Photocopy Animal Pattern onto construction paper—one for each child. Cut yarn into 2- inch (5-cm) lengths for Donkey, Cow or Pig tails.

Instruct each child in the following procedures:

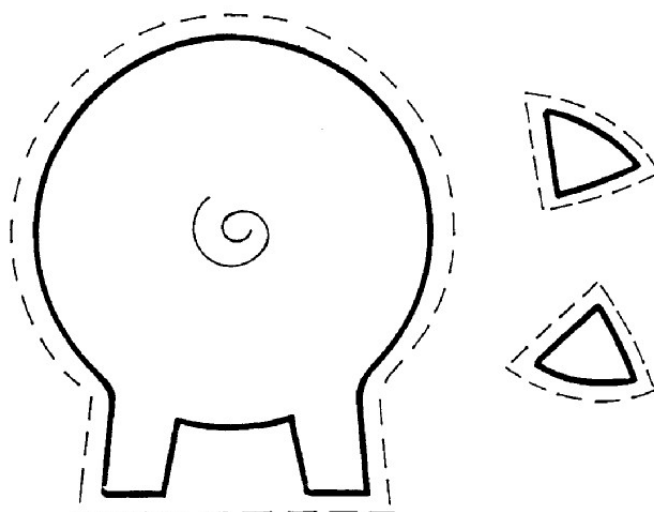
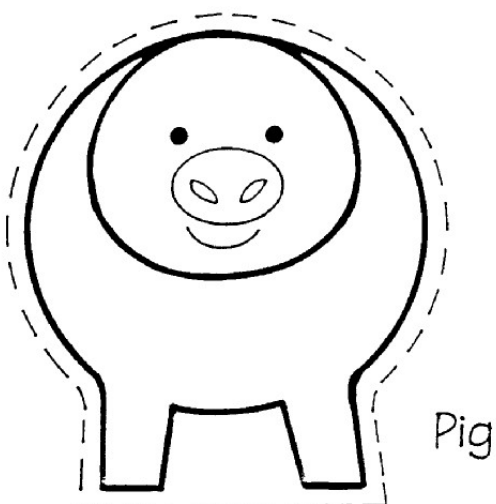
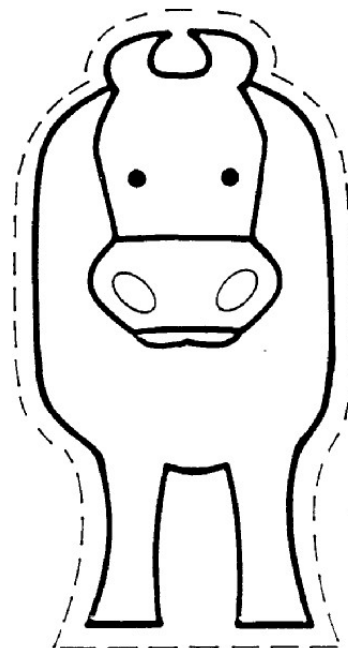
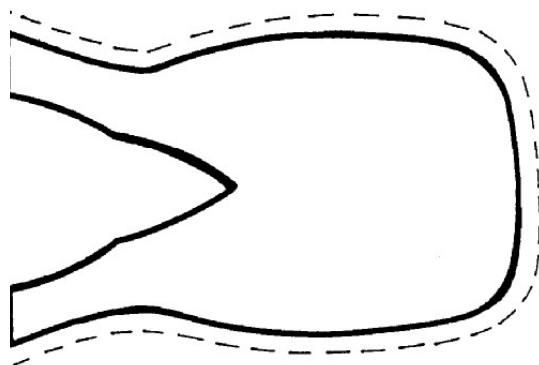
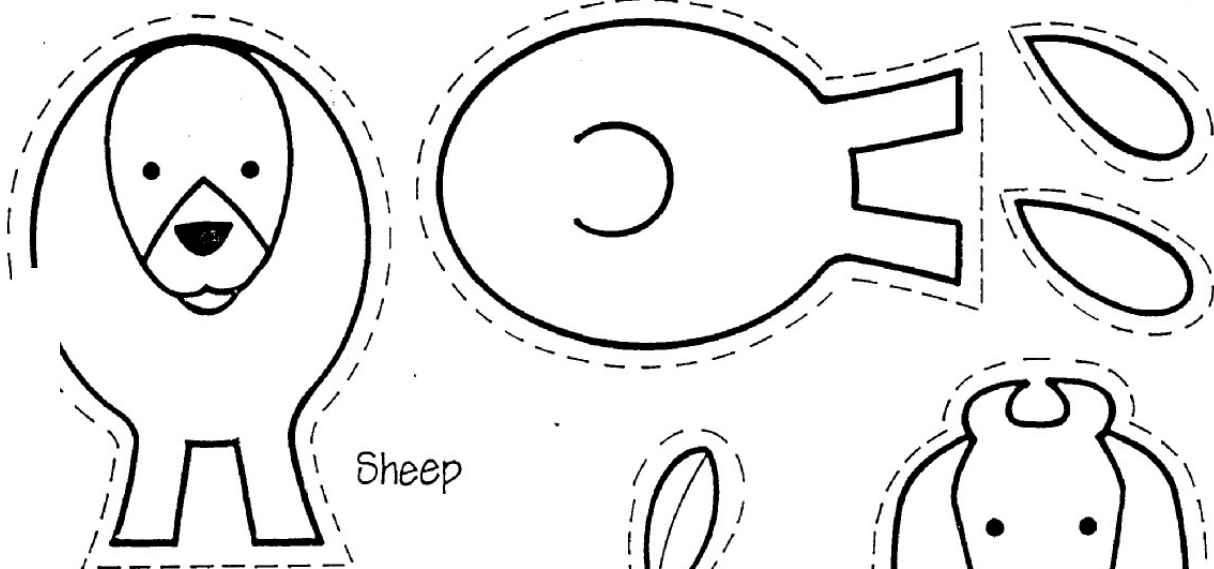
- Use scissors to cut out Animal Pattern pieces.
- Glue yarn or cotton ball to back piece for tail.
- Glue ears to animal's head. Let dry.
- Glue front and back body pieces to spool (sketch a). For lamb, glue cotton balls to spool (sketch b).

Enrichment Idea: Children glue felt ears (cut out b teacher) and wiggle eyes to animal.

Conversation Suggestions: **What kind of animal did you make? What kind of animal did we hear about in our Bible story? When you go home, who will you tell about our Bible story?**



Spool Animal Patterns



CRADLE ROLL PROGRAM

DANIEL AND THE LIONS DEN

Daniel 6:1-23

By Mary Pollestad

PURPOSE: Teach the children in their language and understanding that we must always follow what God wants us to do. No matter what, God will take care of the situation and us. Teach the children to trust even though they can't see the outcome.

TELLING THE STORY: Tell the story in your own words including the use of pictures or flannel graph. Consider purchasing a hardcover book to tell the story. (Hardcover books can be purchased at Michaels Craft, grocery stores, or Christian bookstores. Purchase enough books for every child to take home.)

SONG: Teach the children the song "Dare To Be A Daniel." (Sing the song before the story and after. Follow up with singing the song during craft time.)

CRAFT: Lion Magnet for fridge.

DECORATIONS: If you will serve a little lunch, you can have brown and yellow napkins. You could serve animal crackers as one of the little snacks. (You could pick out all the lions if you wish.)

MATERIALS FOR CRAFT:

- Find a small picture of a lion that you can trace.
- Go to Kinko's or another print shop and ask them to print the patterns you have made on to brown card stock.
- Purchase puzzle pieces from Michaels craft store.
- Purchase wiggly eyes from Michaels craft store.
- Orange and brown paint (spray or liquid)
- Purchase magnets to glue on the back of the lion.

Cut around the lions on the brown cardstock. Draw the face on the lion leaving room for the wiggly eyes. Draw the tail on the body. Spray paint the puzzle pieces with brown and orange paint or brush paint them. After the paint is dry hot glue the orange and brown pieces around the lions head to form the mane. Pieces overlap each other a little. Glue magnet on the back of the lion so that the lion can be put on the fridge at home. The children could probably glue the eyes on the lion or put the magnet on the back of the lion, otherwise the lions will pretty much have to be done before the cradle roll party. Once again emphasizing all of the time how God takes care of us. He protected Daniel from the lions' mouths. How we should always do what God tells us to do and He will work everything out for us.